recommended in its 19th report to open more Sainik Schools in rural areas:

(b) whether the Government propose to implement these recommendations; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to open more sainik schools in the country particularly in hilly regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c). Under the Sainik Schools Scheme, a new Sainik School is opened on the specific request of a State Government since the entire capital expenditure has to be met by it. The Committee constituted to look into the question of reducing financial burden on States for opening new Sainik School has finalised its recommendations in September, 1996 and the same have been sent to all the States to facilitate opening of new Sainik Schools. Sainik School Ghorakhal, District Nainital (UP) and Sainik School Sujan Pur Tira, District Hamirpur (HP) are already located in hilly regions.

In addition to this, the six Sainik Schools in Bihar, Gujarat, Assam, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are situated in rural/backward areas.

[English]

Flood Proofing Programme

1437. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that floods are the regular phenomenon in some parts of the country like U.P., West Bengal, Assam etc. and 16 million hectare of land is yet to be saved from the fury of floods;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have chalked out Flood Proofing Programme for combating the flood problems;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Floods are a recurring phenomena in many parts of the country, particularly in the Ganga and Brahmaputra basin States. The estimated flood prone area in the country is 40.00 million ha. out of which 80% i.e. 32 million ha. has been assessed as the area that can be provided with reasonable degree of protection. So far an area of 14.4 million ha. has been provided with reasonable degree of protection.

(b) to (d). The Central Government during the 8th Plan has launched a flood proofing programme for North Bihar which is one of the worst flood affected regions of the country with an oulay of Rs. 40.0 crores. The programme which includes construction of raised platforms, providing quick drainage facilities, providing drinking water, sanitary, facilities, communication etc. would spill over to 9th Plan. The Working Group on flood control for 9th Plan has recommended extending the programme to other States also during 9th Plan period.

Foreign Students in Indian Universities

1438. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to know the causes for Indian universities being no longer sought after places for study by foreign students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to attract the foreign students in Indian universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), at present, about 14,000 foreign students are studying in Indian Universities. UGC has not initiated any specific scheme to attract foreign students to study in Indian universities.

[Translation]

Family Planning Schemes

1439. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted a study of various International Report on the implementation of family planning schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount provided to each State Government for this purpose during the last three years; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). International Organisations occasionally bring out Reports on the Family Welfare Programme in India and these Reports are given due attention by the Government. The funds released to State Governments during the last three years for implementation of the family welfare programme is enclosed in Statement-I. The achievements of the family welfare programme since its inception are summarised in the Statement - II enclosed.